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United States Patent Application

To: Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D. C. 20231

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CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this document, along with attachments referred to or identified as being enclosed, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail on 09 July 2001 in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D. C. 20231. Name of Registered Representative: James

L. Sonntag, Reg. 30224,

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nt Application	
A 11 (1 NY 1	00/00/15/12/20
Application Number	
Confirmation Number	6508
Filing Date	08-Aug-2000
Applicant(s) Anil Va	sudeo Virkar,
Jan-Fong Jue, Kuan-Zong Fung	
Group Art Unit	1755
ExaminerMichae	el Marcheschi
Attorney's Docket Number	MS2034-1
Title" "ALKALI-METAL-BETA- AND	
BETA"-ALUMINA AND GALLATE	
POLYCRYSTALLINE CERA	AMICS AND
FABRICATION BY A VA	POR PHASE
	METHOD"

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the application as indicated below:

In the Claims

Please cancel claim 1 without prejudice.

Please add the enclosed new claims.

A process for forming ceramic composites of an oxygen-ion conducting ceramic and an alkali-metal-ion conducting ceramic;

forming a shaped composite comprising a precursor ceramic of alpha-X<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and oxygen-ion conducting ceramic, such that a continuous matrix exists in the composite for both the precursor ceramic and the oxygen-ion conducting ceramic,

subjecting the composite to a vapor containing metal oxide of an alkali metal at sufficient temperature and for sufficient time to convert precursor ceramic into a continuous phase of

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